

of the United States to observe this anniversary with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this seventh day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6866 of February 26, 1996

American Red Cross Month, 1996

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Since its founding in 1881 by Clara Barton, the American Red Cross has brought hope and healing to citizens and communities across the country. Today, some 1.4 million trained volunteers work to fulfill the Red Cross' mission by providing relief to disaster victims; by ensuring that our Nation has an adequate and safe blood supply; by training millions of Americans in essential lifesaving and safety techniques; and by assisting members of our Armed Forces, their families, and our distinguished veterans.

This past year, the American Red Cross has carried on its extraordinary legacy across the country and around the world. When a bomb destroyed the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, the Red Cross was there within minutes to assist those whose loved ones were killed in the tragic blast. After a series of record-breaking storms and hurricanes ruined houses and displaced people, the Red Cross served more than a million meals and helped victims to begin rebuilding their lives. And today, as OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR works to secure the peace in Bosnia, the Red Cross is facilitating emergency communications between our troops and their families at home.

The Red Cross has earned our Nation's deepest respect and appreciation for its important lifesaving and life-rebuilding work and for its countless daily efforts to promote health and safety. This month and throughout the year, let us take time to recognize this vital organization and do all we can to further its goals of preventing, preparing for, and responding to emergencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America and Honorary Chairman of the American Red Cross, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim March 1996, as American Red Cross Month. I urge all the people of the United States to support Red Cross chapters nationwide by volunteering and participating in Red Cross blood drives.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-sixth day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and

ninety-six, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and twentieth.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

Proclamation 6867 of March 1, 1996

**Declaration of a National Emergency and Invocation of
Emergency Authority Relating to the Regulation of the
Anchorage and Movement of Vessels**

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

WHEREAS, on February 24, 1996, Cuban military aircraft intercepted and destroyed two unarmed U.S.-registered civilian aircraft in international airspace north of Cuba;

WHEREAS the Government of Cuba has demonstrated a ready and reckless willingness to use excessive force, including deadly force, in the ostensible enforcement of its sovereignty;

WHEREAS, on July 13, 1995, persons in U.S.-registered vessels who entered into Cuban territorial waters suffered injury as a result of the reckless use of force against them by the Cuban military; and

WHEREAS the entry of U.S.-registered vessels into Cuban territorial waters could again result in injury to, or loss of life of, persons engaged in that conduct, due to the potential use of excessive force, including deadly force, against them by the Cuban military, and could threaten a disturbance in international relations;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States of America, including section 1 of title II of Public Law 65-24, ch. 30, June 15, 1917, as amended (50 U.S.C. 191), sections 201 and 301 of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3, United States Code, find and do hereby proclaim that a national emergency does exist by reason of a disturbance or threatened disturbance of international relations. In order to address this national emergency and to secure the observance of the rights and obligations of the United States, I hereby authorize and direct the Secretary of Transportation (the "Secretary") to make and issue such rules and regulations as the Secretary may find appropriate to regulate the anchorage and movement of vessels, and delegate to the Secretary my authority to approve such rules and regulations, as authorized by the Act of June 15, 1917.

Section 1. The Secretary may make rules and regulations governing the anchorage and movement of any vessel, foreign or domestic, in the territorial waters of the United States, which may be used, or is susceptible of being used, for voyage into Cuban territorial waters and that may create unsafe conditions and threaten a disturbance of international relations. Any rule or regulation issued pursuant to this proclamation may be effective immediately upon issuance as such rule or regulation shall involve a foreign affairs function of the United States.